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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tomihiko AZUMA **Docket:** 14739
Serial No.: 09/897,323 **Examiner:** Unassigned
Filed: July 2, 2001 **Group Art Unit:** 2131
For: SECURE MAIL PROXY SYSTEM,
METHOD OF MANAGING SECURITY,
AND RECORDING MEDIUM
Confirm. No. 2058 **Dated:** October 21, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Attn: Mailstop Amendment

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

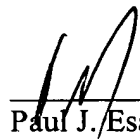
In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. International Publication 99/05814, corresponding to Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 2001-518724, dated October 16, 2001; and
2. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 2000-059358, dated February 25, 2000, together with an English language Abstract.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 21, 2004.

Dated: October 21, 2004



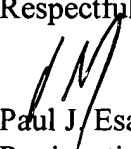
Paul J. Esatto, Jr.

The references were cited in an Official Action dated August 17, 2004, received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicant is submitting copies of the above-cited references, together with a translation of the Examiner's comments regarding the references from the Official Action. The relevance of the references is described in the Official Action.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

The undersigned attorney hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

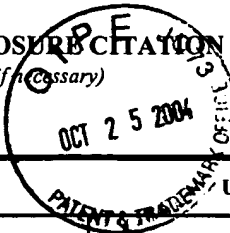


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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | | | | Docket Number (Optional) 14739 | | Application Number 09/897,323 | |
| | | | | Applicant(s) Tomihiko AZUMA | | | |
| | | | | Filing Date July 2, 2001 | | Group Art Unit 2131 | |



| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
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| U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS | | | | | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation | |
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | 2000-059358 | 2/25/00 | Japan | | | | |
| | | 2001-518724 | 10/16/01 | Japan | | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS | | | (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|--|
| TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c)) | | | | | Docket No. 14739 | |
| In Re Application Of: Tomihiko AZUMA | | | | | | |
| Application No. | Filing Date | Examiner | Customer No. | Group Art Unit | Confirmation No. | |
| 09/897,323 | July 2, 2001 | Unassigned | 23389 | 2131 | 2058 | |
| Title: SECURE MAIL PROXY SYSTEM, METHOD OF MANAGING SECURITY, AND RECORDING MEDIUM | | | | | | |
| Address to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | | | | | | |
| 37 CFR 1.97(b) | | | | | | |
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114. | | | | | | |
| 37 CFR 1.97(c) | | | | | | |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of: | | | | | | |
| <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e); </div> | | | | | | |
| OR | | | | | | |
| <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). </div> | | | | | | |

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|---|--------------|------------|--------------|---|----------------------------|--|
| TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c)) | | | | | Docket No. 14739 | |
| In Re Application: Tomihiko AZUMA | | | | | | |
| Application No. | Filing Date | Examiner | Customer No. | Group Art Unit | Confirmation No. | |
| 09/897,323 | July 2, 2001 | Unassigned | 23389 | 2131 | 2058 | |
| Title: SECURE MAIL PROXY SYSTEM, METHOD OF MANAGING SECURITY, AND RECORDING MEDIUM | | | | | | |
| Payment of Fee (Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p)) | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ is attached. | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 19-1013/SSMP as described below. | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charge the amount of _____ | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment. | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee required. | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. | | | | | | |
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| Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile* | | | | Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail | | |
| I certify that this document and authorization to charge deposit account is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. _____). _____ (Date) | | | | I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on Oct. 21, 2004 _____ (Date) | | |
| _____ Signature | | | | _____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence | | |
| _____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate | | | | _____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Certificate | | |
| *This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account. | | | | | | |
| _____ Signature Paul J. Esatto, Jr. Reg. No. 30,749 SCULLY, SCOTT, MURPHY & PRESSER | | | | Dated: October 21, 2004 | | |
| PJE:ahs CC: | | | | | | |